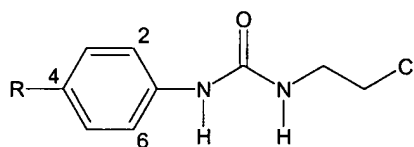


6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Amended) A method for selectively preventing microtubule assembly by selectively disrupting the function of ~~targeting carcinoma~~ protein receptors consisting of β -tubulin as found in a human carcinoma cell line, said method consisting of the steps of:

i) preparing a molecule of formula I, ~~prodrugs thereof~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



formula I

wherein R is selected from the group consisting of *t*-butyl, *i*-propyl and *s*-butyl;

ii) administering to a mammalian patient in need thereof a therapeutically sufficient amount of ~~incubating the human carcinoma cell line with~~ the compound of formula I, ~~to provide incubated cells;~~

iii) ~~detecting binding of the protein receptors with the molecule of formula I by measuring inactivation of the protein.~~

9. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein said human carcinoma is human breast carcinoma.

10. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein said mammalian patient is a human patient.